

GREED AND GRAFT WIN WHEN 1,200 DIE AS S. S. EASTLAND CAPSIZES IN CHICAGO RIVER

Corruption and Inefficiency in U. S. Inspection Service Joined to Insatiable Hunger for Profits of Transportation Company Cause Appalling Disaster to Placid Crowd in Heart of Busy City.

The Steamship Eastland, of the St. Joseph-Chicago Steamship Company, capsized in the Chicago River at 7.40 a. m. Saturday, July 24, as it was about to start for St. Joseph with a picnic crowd. Nearly 2,800 persons were aboard, and some 1,200 to 1,500 lost their lives. The following vivid description is by one who arrived shortly after the disaster.

Never was there a more impressive demonstration of the effect of Capitalism's hunger for profits, regardless of human lives. The horror of the Eastland surpasses that of the Slocum, the Titanic, the Ironsides, the Gross, and the other disasters of the past. The United States Inspection Service is charged by Victor Olander, Secretary of the Illinois Federation of Labor, and for many years Secretary of the Lake Seamen's Union. Investigations are under way by city, county, state and federal officials.

The description is in the short verse-form which makes it easy to read and remember. None of the Chicago daily papers carried a story of the disaster anywhere near so vivid as that which follows. It was too big for them. The American Socialist believes that it's account of the horror will live as a piece of literature, as well as the best story of the catastrophe.

The mere recital of the circumstances should make Socialists of all who read it. Pass your copy on to some one else—some non-Socialist—that he may see things as they are.

By IRWIN TUCKER

I.

Crushed into the oily ooze, a thousand girls, mothers, babies and men

Struggled and choked, suffocating and strangling in the black cold water;

A solid writhing mass of fighting, drowning humanity, wiped out of existence into cold, sodden death, all in an instant—

Only a moment before, they were gay with expectation of a day of pleasure, while the Eastland began to throb beneath them, ready to depart.

White dresses fluttered in the morning breezes, bright with ribbons;

Treasured chains and lockets and strings of beads, brought forth for this occasion, glittered in the light;

Spending-money in their purses, carefully hoarded up during weeks and months of unremitting toil, was to unlock the gates of merriment for this one longed-for day;

Friend called to friend from boat to dock and back again, waving farewell, shouting gay messages, quips and jests;—

THEN—the boat heaved over, crushing a thousand of them and more into the oily black mud at the bottom of the river, at the mouth of the sewer.

The boat was top-heavy and lacked beam and depth; it had been built cheaply to save money;

Ballast had been removed to make room for a few more fares.

What does safety matter? They're only common working-people—We're out to make money.

The wives of the directors of the shipbuilding company needed jewelry and Pomeranian dogs;

And the son of the president of the transportation company simply must have a new model automobile;

Business is Business; the more people get on an excursion boat, the more money it makes—let them take a chance on drowning; we risked our money, let them risk their lives—it's all they've got.

II.

They were dragged up, one at a time, for days thereafter;

The gay white dresses, fluttering ribbons, jewelry and plumes, and lace, were dragged and torn and full of mud, or were ripped clear off the bruised, swollen and blackening bodies;

Little babies—young girls, just starting out into womanhood—mothers gray with the weight of years and care—

Young men, stalwart and handsome; boys, impatient with their first real vacation; elder men, fathers of families, going along to take care of the folks;—

They were hauled out of the steel hull, wrenched loose from the mass of clammy death that had so shortly before been a joyous crowd of picnickers—

The Western Electric Company, so many said, had warned all its employees that they must attend this picnic or lose two weeks' pay.

They wanted this picnic to be the biggest ever seen in Chicago, for they needed the advertisement.

And the boat made big money with the sale of tickets, and the stockholders of the transportation company needed the money; they have to take opera seats next winter, and simply must have opera cloaks and jewels;

And the transportation company cannot be used for more than the value of the hull; So that by building a cheap boat and crowding on thousands of passengers, they get almost enough to maintain their position in society.

III.

I saw the excursion agent, the man who was responsible for chartering the boat for this crowd; he wept like a baby.

Unable to speak, to tell his wife how it had happened, he sobbed with eyes staring at the horror of what he had seen.

I saw the captain and mate of the boat, heavily guarded by police to keep the crowd from lynching them, because, driven mad by the suddenness of it, they forbade rescuers to chop holes in the boat. (Oh, yes, undoubtedly THEY will bear the blame; you cannot expect those who made money off it to be dragged rough the vulgar law courts);

I saw the policemen who kept the crowd, themselves men to danger and death, but who lay down under human sym-

But the most pitiful, horrible, ghastly thing about it was that nobody seemed to understand that it was all for PROFIT. That somebody makes money

BLAZING THE TRAIL FOR VICTORY IN 1916!

By J. L. ENGBAHL

The Finnish Socialist Publishing Company of Fitchburg, Mass., has contributed \$100 to the "ORGANIZE FOR 1916" fund of the national Socialist Party. By this act the Finnish Socialists have again set the pace and furnished the inspiration for all other Socialists. They have come to the front in this big effort for 1916, taking the place they have always held in most party activities.

In America as well as in Europe the Finnish Socialists are the sturdy trail blazers on the difficult road toward the social revolution. Opposition has strengthened them, persecution has made them more determined to win complete political and industrial emancipation; all their failures have been but the beginnings of ever greater victories.

The record of the Socialists in Finland is a long list of achievements. They have fought successfully against the Czar of all the Russia's under the biggest handicaps any people ever knew. The Finnish Socialists did not cease to achieve when they emigrated to America. Although scattered through all the states of the union and through all the provinces of Canada they maintain a solidarity of organi-

zation that should be the pride and boast of the entire American working class.

They fought one of the most brilliant labor struggles this nation has ever seen when they resisted the onslaught of the powerful copper barons of upper Michigan two years ago.

The Finnish Socialists have established four successful working class daily newspapers—something the English speaking Socialists have not yet been able to do after much sacrifice and the expenditure of huge sums of money. The Finnish Socialist Publishing Company, of Fitchburg, Mass., publishes one of these daily papers. It also does a big book publishing business. One of its achievements was the translation and publication, word for word and page for page, of the volumi-

off the cheap, flimsy, overloaded excursion books.

That Government inspectors, commissioned with the solemn duty of protecting human life, are easily bought, or more easily fooled,

That the horror which they saw lurks behind every one of them every day, every hour, so long as Business is run for Profit.

The crowds were not raving with anger, they were dumb, curious, interested—but not enraged.

THAT was the ghastliest thing about it all—

V.

The Eastland had been condemned for years. Two years ago the Federal Labor had protested to Washington against it and kindred craft;

It was unsafe when built, and grew more unsafe with every year that passed;

Money was spent in remodeling it—a small part of the money it brought in was used to tinker it up a little from time to time.

But still it was unsafe, and known to be so; but it would have cost too much to abandon it—somebody's dividends would have been reduced!

But why should the Government pay any attention to the protests of labor? Organized labor is a dupe and a fool, led around by the nose at each election.

While organized Capital pays good money to officers of the Government, and labor merely growls and grumbles, and forgets—(Capital never forgets, and it knows that Labor is a fool).

Nothing will happen—no rich people were lost—What does it matter if a few stenographers and common workmen get drowned?

The wives of the contractors, and the stockholders, and the Transportation company directors, will get a new dress apiece, and a French poodle, and a new high-powered car—Labor is insolent, and a menace to Prosperity!

VI.

After the Lusitania horror we thrust our fists into Germany's face, and threatened war.

Although the passengers were riding in a British ship filled with ammunition to blow the entrails out of Germany's soldiers,

And although Britain had stolen our cargoes and sidetracked our passengers and bullied our trade; But there were a few millionaires lost on the Lusitania—hence we will sink a dozen battleships unless they are allowed to ride on dynamite, through the war-zone, in safety whenever they get good and ready.

After the Titanic disaster we passed laws about the number of life-boats each ship must carry at sea.

Because several wealthy families were represented among the victims. But the victims of the General Slocum were all poor; and although it was shown that the life-preservers were loaded with lead, and the fire-hose was rotten and crumbled at a touch.

We did nothing, because the lives of the poor do not matter. The Eastland victims were all poor—this was the one bright spot in the summer for a good many of them, this vacation.

And our own officials and millionaires and business people are guilty of this disaster—hence we can of course do nothing.

VII.

Now hearken, all you who are thrilled with horror at the disaster

to the Eastland;

On you rests the guilt, so long as you agree that money is more important than life;

So long as you consent to the proposition that business should be directed to the making of private profit;

So long as you, by voice and will and vote, uphold industry for private profit, just so long does the blood-guilt of these lives rest on you!

The ancients offered up hecatombs of cattle to their gods to placate them;

We offer up human lives by the thousand to our great god PROFIT, and all of you who do not fight that god are his worshippers.

And as for you—MURDERERS! CRIMINALS! IDOLATERS! BLASPHEMERS! who while that was the "Will of God," and is a "lesson to the thoughtless,"

You preachers of sermons who see in this horror only the lesson that "life is short," and that we must be "prepared to die a good death,"

You too are servants of the grinning black monster, Greed, enemy of God and Man;

Judas worse than Iscariot! for he had the grace to hang himself!

You who cannot see that the ringing challenge of this disaster is that so long as God is God, human lives are the sacrifice—

You are sharers in the murder, and partakers of the crime!

The individual must be the best that it is possible for him to be or society as a whole will never reach its best.

To argue that the old is sufficient because it one time served is to set a barrier on progress. The ox wagon and tallow candle served at one time, but they are antiquated now.

Science has shown that the reason there is unemployment is because employment is in private hands, and these monopolists of labor will not permit all to work, since if they did the price of labor would advance and endanger their profits.

There is no sin, there is no crime, so wicked as exploitation. Individual theft wrongs one; this robs all. Individual murder is disastrous to one; this endangers all society with wicked wars.

Science has shown that it would be possible to end all exploitation, by demonstrating how certain forms of exploitation have been ended in the past, through partial socialization.

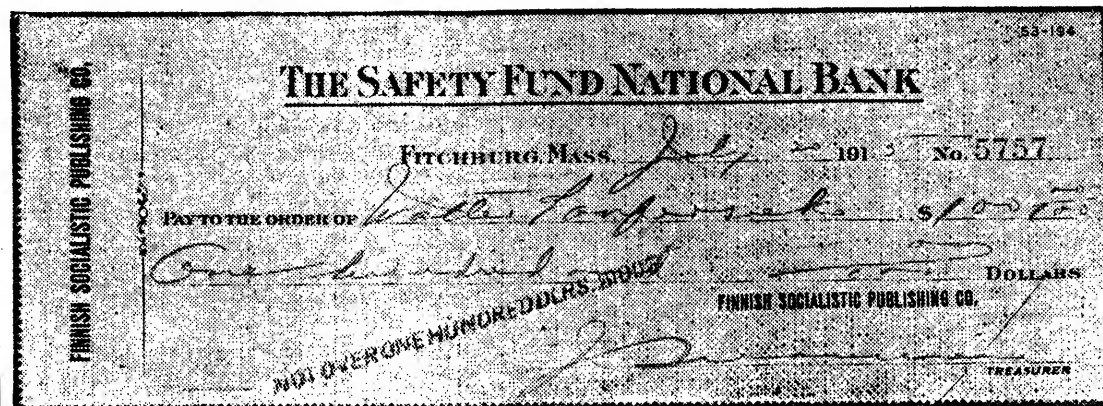
There is nothing sacred about socialization. We have a right to change our statement of it. It is merely the only method that has ever succeeded in ending exploitation. If any other sure method can be found, we should not hesitate to take it up. But so far no other plan has been discovered.

Capitalism has made the courts a grim joke, with the point always sticking into the worker. Socialism will again make the judges respectable by causing them to do justice.

Capitalism reveals its criminality by suppressing free speech and buying up the press. Socialism courts investigation, thus proving its sincerity and the strength of its claims.

Capitalism employs secret diplomacy, or deceit and lies, in conducting business for the few. Socialism has and will have nothing to conceal, because it contemplates business for the whole people.

Now hearken, all you who are thrilled with horror at the disaster



FINNISH SOCIALISTS SEND THIS \$100 CHECK FOR "ORGANIZE FOR 1916" FUND.

ous "1914 Campaign Book" issued by the national Socialist Party.

This publishing company is the heart of the Finnish Socialist movement in the East. Similar centers are found in the middle west at Superior, Wisc., on the Pacific Coast at Astoria, Oregon, and at Port Arthur, Canada.

In a greater sense, these strategic points are to the militant Finnish Socialist movement in America, what every small or large local or branch is to the national Socialist movement. Therefore, when the National Executive Committee sent forth its call to all of the Socialist locals in the land, for a contribution of \$2 from each of them, the Finnish Socialists of Fitchburg, Mass., responded with a check for \$100 which we

take considerable pride in reproducing on this page. This \$100 will be a powerful weapon in organizing the forces of labor for the epoch making 1916 national political struggle now rapidly approaching. Yet it must be only the rock that will loosen the avalanche of funds that must sweep toward the common goal—the national office of the Socialist Party in Chicago.

Emil Seidel, member of the National Executive Committee, tells how to "Organize For 1916" on Page 3 of this issue. There you will also find the names of the week's contributors to the "Organize For 1916" fund. Every addition to this fund is a step nearer the Co-operative Commonwealth and the complete emancipation of the working class from wage slavery.

TO THE WOMEN AND MEN OF NEW YORK, NEW JERSEY, PENNSYLVANIA AND MASSACHUSETTS

THE FIGHT for socialism in your states this summer is particularly vital. It involves the political emancipation of one-half of the population.

The Socialist Party from the beginning has stood for complete adult suffrage. We men have the ballot, so the fight narrows down somewhat to—

VOTES FOR WOMEN!

It is a big issue, and one worthy the effort of any man. No man can claim to represent politically the interests of the millions of women in industry. They are in the sweat-shops, the mills, the factories, the offices, on the farms, and only the women can know what is best to enable them to escape the peculiar problems they face.

THEY SHOULD HAVE THE BALLOT FOR THEIR OWN PROTECTION.

Even from the selfish view-point, men must realize that they cannot help themselves, as long as there are women who, unprotected by the laws, come in competition with them.

Every man should consider it a duty to himself to work with energy for the constitutional amendments granting suffrage to women. The women of the Socialist Party are making the campaign. They want the ballot. They need the ballot. And yet they have no way of getting the ballot, except by the votes of men! You men must vote the ballot to women this fall. Do not fail in your duty.

Every woman should give freely of her time and energy for this work. With the world against her, woman has bravely won her place in the productive life of the nation. She has shown her ability to fill the place she has won. At least she is entitled to an equal opportunity with men. Woman's place is at the side of man, enjoying every opportunity with him, whether economic, political or social, in order that she may be as free as man. She is entitled to her place "in the sun."

Suffrage for woman is one step nearer the great goal. Liberty, equality, fraternity—but let us add, for men and women.

For full emancipation,

WALTER LANFERSIEK,
NATIONAL EXECUTIVE SECRETARY, SOCIALIST PARTY.

OUR BIRTHDAY

By JOHN M. WORK

I HAD THE pleasure to be present as a delegate when the Socialist Party was born. It was born at the Unity Convention, held in Indianapolis, Indiana, beginning July 28, 1901.

There were about 125 delegates present, among whom were the following women: Corinne S. Brown, Martha A. Biegler, Margaret Haile, Elizabeth H. Thomas, Sula Lowrie, Mrs. Max S. Hayes, Martha H. McHugh, and Carrie Rand Herron.

THE UNITY Convention was called for the purpose of attempting to unite the various Socialist parties of the country. The largest of these were the Social-Democratic Party and the Springfield wing of the Socialist Labor Party. The other wing of the Socialist Labor Party did not take part in the convention. State parties in Iowa, Kentucky and Texas, not affiliated with any national organization, were represented.

The various factions that united in calling the convention had patched up their differences sufficiently to support the same ticket the year before. Antipathies were very bitter, however. Had it not been for the withdrawal of various local and state organizations from the national organizations, thus decreasing their membership, it is hardly probable that the two national organizations could have been persuaded to consent to try to form an organic union.

THE MAIN actions of the convention were the adoption of a National Constitution, a National Platform, a Resolution on Socialism and Trade Unionism, a resolution on Injunctions, and a resolution on the Negro Question.

The platform came in for a hot discussion, especially the immediate measures. The resolutions were also warmly discussed. In fact, everything was warmly discussed. Socialists are always very earnest in their debates, and the bitter feelings which the delegates brought along made them especially earnest at that convention.

BUT THE great debate came on the constitution. Hot does not begin to express it. It was scalding, vitriolic. All the rancor in the hearts of the delegates was poured out in blistering words. At times it seemed to the most optimistic that unity was hopeless and that we must disperse and go back to our several locals with the doubtful confession that we had failed in our mission.

But, out of it all came agreement on the famous Section Four of Article Twelve, which now appears as Section Four of Article Ten. Get out your National Constitution and read it. It is historic. It is the state autonomy provision. Around it raged the battle as to whether we could organically unite. Its adoption made unity possible.

Then came better feeling and a great relief. We went home with joy in our hearts because we bore the glad tidings of a reunited Socialist Party—united in the face of the

Rockefeller's Mayor Tries To Bar The N.Y. Call From Strike Ridden Bayonne—Fight Is On

As this issue of The American Socialist was going to press, we received a telegram from Chester M. Wright, managing editor of The Call, the Socialist daily of New York City, reading as follows:

By CHESTER M. WRIGHT

Rockefeller Mayor of Bayonne, N. J., today ordered The Call suppressed in that city where ten thousand oil works' employees are on strike. We outwitted him today and smuggled one thousand copies to the strikers who grabbed them greedily. Detectives made the rounds of all news stands to see that no Calls were sold. Detectives almost discovered method by which the thousand copies were smuggled in, but were outwitted by narrow margin. We are now asking our readers to contribute to flood the city with individual subs through the mail, a month to each worker in the city.

The American Socialist expresses the sincere hope that the workers everywhere, especially in the Eastern states, will rally to the support of The Call in this great effort. It is waging a magnificent battle and no sacrifice is too great to enable it to win this fight against Rockefellerism and the profit system. The working class is fortunate in having a fighting daily like The Call on the ground in this great emergency and it should make the most of the opportunity.

GREED FOR PROFITS

Greed for profits took more than 1,000 lives when the Excursion Steamer Eastland turned over on its side in the Chicago river. Thousands of men, women and children, from the families of the working class, escaping for a day from their labors at the big Chicago plant of the Western Electric Co., were crowded into the unseaworthy hulk of a ship that had been condemned by experts who placed human life above the dollar. One of the most tragic scenes in this great tragedy was the scramble of the living for the jobs of the dead. A writer describes this scene as follows:

"Chicago has a great list of unemployed. They walk the streets looking for jobs. Every day they read the 'want ads,' and ride out hopefully on 'the hunt.' They are classified as the shifting, desperate army in the city's economic and sociological reports. Usually they hunt alone in every part of the business and factory districts. They pop up in this office and that with the monotonous refrain, 'Got a job open?'"

"Many Apply for Places. 'Today they came to the Western Electric at 45th avenue and 22nd street. While it was still hardly light they gathered in front of the superintendent's office. At first there were only fifty. In fifteen minutes there were a hundred, then 200. By 7 there were 400. There would be jobs in the Western Electric—lots of jobs. The police pushed the crowd across the street. Then the workers started to arrive—hundreds and hundreds. The little army across the street watched the procession dully. It watched the drawn faces move past, the faltering steps of stricken parents and sons. There was no shouting or laughing along the whole line. For minutes the procession filed through the gates, silent and stoical—some weeping."

"Criminal proceedings have been instituted against four well known German Socialists including Rosa Luxemburg and Clara Zetkin, on account of alleged treasonable articles in the monthly Internationale.

In Holland the Socialists held a national convention, denounced the scheme of the government to increase the army to 700,000 men and add more ships to the navy, and called upon the working classes of Germany, France and England to make a determined stand for peace.

A MASTERLY RETREAT. Slipping quietly from his entrenched position at Potomac, General Rockefeller has just completed an orderly and most masterly retreat upon Cleveland, using motor, electric and steam power to make his getaway and baffle his supposed pursuers. The best military authorities agree that the forty old general has no intention whatever of "tiring them on," his tactics being avowedly designed to throw them off the track.—New York Call.

Capitalism is predicated on robbery and could not exist apart from exploitation. Socialism will open the way for progress and plenty, by stopping every form of loot.

THE SAD DEATH OF COMRADE HOFFMAN

By EUGENE V. DEBS

THE painful and shocking news of the sudden death of Comrade C. B. Hoffman of Kansas City has just been received. The death of this noble comrade is keenly felt by all who knew him and is an irreparable loss to our movement. Comrade Hoffman achieved large success in his early business life but the sordid rewards of commercial success did not satisfy the yearnings of his great heart and lofty mind and in due time he naturally found his way into the socialist movement. For many years Comrade Hoffman labored faithfully and unselfishly to spread the light and prepare the people for the better day. In many ways this beloved comrade served the cause. On the platform he was eloquent, forceful and convincing, and as a writer he won wide renown. For a time he was editor of the Chicago Socialist, and to the hour of his death he seized with eagerness every chance to serve the cause.

The beloved wife of Comrade Hoffman was his inseparable companion and co-worker and to her, upon whom the blow falls so cruelly, we tender our deepest sympathy in her great bereavement.

A brave, loyal and devoted comrade has gone to his reward. He served faithfully and well through all his years and will be lovingly remembered by all his comrades.

Do not become the slave of any institution. It is always made to serve. If it does not serve, change it so it will serve, or make a new institution that will serve.

The social machine that grinds for the few only is no longer a social machine. Having excluded the people, the people ought to discard it.

If there is not equality before the law, if there is not equality of opportunity, if there is not employment for everybody, the social organization is a failure.

Declaring that present institutions have failed is not saying that there must be no institutions. It is only insisting that there must be better institutions.

Society as a whole must be re-created in order that every individual may have opportunity.

The American Socialist

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J. L. ENGDAHL, Editor. WALTER LANGFERSH, Business Mgr. MALPH KORNGOLD, Circulation Mgr. RYAN WALKER, Cartoonist.

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SATURDAY, JULY 31st, 1915.

Our Slogan ORGANIZE FOR 1916!

NEWS OF THE WEEK

Here is all the week's news worth reading. It is all the news that you do not have time to read the daily capitalist press.

MONDAY, JULY 19.

Incendiary fire discovered on U. S. battleships Oklahoma, New Jersey and Wisconsin. British discover device to make immunity from submarine attack.

German advance on Warsaw. Kaiser's sister, Queen of Greece, that he has been seized Russia for three months. Roosevelt calls Bryan milk and water.

TUESDAY, JULY 20.

Wilson cabinet decides on note rejecting conditions on which Germany is willing to send immunity to Americans on the high seas.

Reported that 5,000 men have gone on strike at Krupp works at Essen, Germany. Military threatens to put them all in prison.

One hundred thousand lives lost in Ohio floods. Like number homeless and in need of food.

One thousand men on strike at Bayonne, New Jersey. Standard Oil plant.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 21.

King of Romania, Bulgaria and Greece will soon meet in Athens, Greece, to discuss the war.

Strikes of Welsh coal miners ends. Men who strike British government. The 843,000 British husbands in the war costs government \$100,000,000 in home subsidies.

THURSDAY, JULY 22.

John W. Wamaker, department store manager, urges United States buy Belgium's Liberty Bonds \$100,000,000.

British plan to borrow \$100,000,000 in the United States.

Excursion steamer turns turtle in Chicago River in heart of Chicago. Bodies of 12 dead recovered.

German smash Russian fort near Warsaw. British beat back Turk rush with machine guns.

London press divided on Wilson note; London papers pleased; Paris satisfied but disappointed; expected more.

SUNDAY, JULY 25.

With the death toll in Chicago's excursion steamer disaster now put at 1,000, the lost the final investigation is promised.

German submarines resume activity in the North Atlantic, sinking a British steamer, and four British trawlers. Schwab declared to be unending.

Swabian effort to build up tide, the usual trick.

NATION PLEASED!

The headlines tell us that the nation is pleased with the note that President Wilson has sent to Germany. This startling poll of public opinion was taken by selecting favorable extracts from the daily newspapers voicing the general opinion, "Whatever he (Wilson) does is right."

HOW LONG!

The end of the first year of the war, with its ghastly record of human dead and human suffering has finally come. All the world is asking the question: "How much longer will it go on?" No one seems to know. There is but one answer. It will go on just as long as the great mass of the peoples of the warring nations permit it to continue. The rulers must quit when the people call a halt—when they refuse any longer to do the fighting and the dying.

The Socialist Parties in the neutral and blood-spilling nations are pointing the way toward peace and the end of all wars. The ruling class thrives on war. The oppressed class is further enslaved by war. This war and all wars will end when the oppressed class learns its lesson.

JOHN D. ORDERS WATCHDOGS.

John D. Rockefeller has given orders to all tenants on his estate at Tarrytown, N. Y., to purchase first-class watchdogs at his expense for additional protection to his estate. This expense will of course be immediately added onto the oil consumers or the oil producers, thus making it harder than ever for them to keep the wolf from the door.

This Week's Editorial From 'Socialist Press'

MILWAUKEE'S NEW SCHOOL BOARD PRESIDENT.

(From The Montana Socialist.)

Mrs. Victor Berger, wife of the former Milwaukee Socialist congressman, has been elected President of the School Board in Milwaukee.

Mrs. Berger, so far as we know, is the first Socialist woman in the United States to be thus honored.

She has been a member of the School Board of Milwaukee for some time, and her election as head of the board comes as a recognition of her ability and her profound knowledge of educational problems.

Apparently, the people of Milwaukee are not so terrified at the prospect of having a Socialist, and a woman at that, to direct the policies of the school board. They do not appear to be aroused over the danger of having "poison" injected into the schools.

It looks as though they had come to a realization that our public schools are, or should be, the bulwark of democracy, and that if they are to fulfill their function as educators of our youth, they must be intelligently, efficiently and democratically managed.

The first step in this direction is to have a school board that is not controlled by any corporate or commercial interests. The second step is to have as board members persons who know something about schools and school children.

Mrs. Berger's long association with the Milwaukee schools, and her political affiliation as well, have made her particularly qualified to fulfill these two requirements of democratic school management.

It is a pity that the school board of Milwaukee is not so well informed as to the latest incident in the fight for free schools and then to contrast the Milwaukee school system with our own. We judge of the efficiency of a school system by its results. The Milwaukee schools are ranked high among the educational institutions of our country. The "Butte schools"—but let us draw the veil! The spectacle is too painful to contemplate.

In the Legislature of Saxony, Germany, the Socialists, during a discussion on the subject of deferring the State election to October, 1917, made the proposition that the age limit of voters be reduced from 24 years to 20 and that woman suffrage be also inaugurated. But the Conservative, Liberal and Clerical parties at once opposed the suggestions and nothing came of them. The Socialists argued that the war is decimating the ranks of the common people, and consequently the right of suffrage should be broadened proportionately.

The next of the important criminal trials in connection with the Colorado coal strike has been set for Aug. 23, when Edward T. Doyle, district treasurer of the United Mine Workers of America, William T. Hickey, secretary of the Colorado Federation of Labor, and three local mine union leaders will be placed on trial.

Movies depicting various phases of the labor problem will be a feature of this year's campaign in Brooklyn, N. Y. Last year the plan was tried to show the close of the campaign and was found to be quite a success and now the idea is to be considerably elaborated.

BOOK IS TIMELY AND EXCELLENT

Eugene V. Debs has the following to say about Robert Hunter's justly famous book, — "LABOR IN POLITICS."

"This timely and excellent book by Robert Hunter is aptly named. It is a review and a very thorough and illuminating one of labor in politics in the United States. It shows clearly why labor has been weak politically in the past and how easily it can be made strong in the future. It exposes the futility of the Gompers pure and simple craft union policy of 'rewarding your friends and punishing your enemies' and the unpunished capitalist candidates who are the 'friends of labor' while at the same time they are committed body and soul to capitalist parties that are the deadly foes of all that organized labor stands for."

"Robert Hunter shows clearly in these pages why the working class has nothing to expect from capitalist parties; why the organized workers betray themselves in dividing at the ballot box; why they are held in contempt by the very politicians and parties to whom they give their votes; and why there is no hope for them on the political field until they sever their relations once and for all with capitalist parties and cast in their lot with the Socialist party, the only party organized and managed by the working class and therefore the only party that regards the rights and interests and expresses their hopes and aspirations."

With deep interest and special satisfaction have I reviewed these interesting pages by Robert Hunter and I thank him for having contributed to the literature of the labor movement. He presents us here with the record of labor in American politics. The facts are well worth knowing for the weakness and failure they lay bare and for the solidarity and victory to which they lead the way."

The working class must develop political power as an essential factor in their struggle for emancipation and Robert Hunter's book will be a material help to the workers in lining up for the future on the battlefields of the future. —ABOLITION POLITICAL, Paper 25 cents. Published by the National Office Socialist Party, 803 W. Madison St., Chicago, Ill.

THE PEOPLE WANT PEACE

This is the end of the first year of the great slaughter in Europe. No confident prophecy can be made predicting when it will all end. As the first year of universal murder came to an end the biggest note of hope for civilization was sounded by the German Socialist Party in a demand upon the German government to show its readiness to enter upon peace negotiations. It calls upon the Socialists in other countries to make similar demands upon their governments. In commenting upon this declaration, The Labour Leader, organ of the British Independent Labor Party, urges the organized British Socialists to fall into line with the Germans and make similar demands upon the British government. One of the steps leading up to the action of the German Socialist executive committee was the publication of an open letter from 700 officials of the party and of the German trade unions. This would indicate that the movement for peace in Germany has gained considerable headway and should be an inspiration to the Socialists of the United States, who make up the only organized movement in this country interested in keeping this country out of the European war. The people of the United States, like all the people of Europe, want peace. The German declaration for peace, which has been received in this country, reads as follows:

For almost a year the fury of the war has now raged over the earth. Hundreds of thousands of promising human lives have been annihilated, innumerable works of art and culture have been destroyed, a terrible devastation has taken place of the fruits of human toil. Millions of mothers, wives, and children cry for their sons, husbands, and fathers. Distress and wretchedness accompany the grief which weighs so heavily upon the peoples.

Is it not time that this horrible drama, unprecedented in tragedy in the history of the world, came to an end?

The Socialists have seen this ruinous world catastrophe approaching and have predicted it. They have in all countries opposed the Imperialistic policy of territorial expansion and its consequence, the pernicious competition in armaments, which is the root of this terrible war.

The Socialists have worked incessantly for an understanding between the peoples in the common work of culture and the common service of humanity. Tens of thousands of meetings, millions of leaflets, the International Socialist Congresses, and the German-Franco conferences of understanding in Berne and Basle bear witness to this fact.

RECORD OF GERMAN SOCIALISTS.

When in recent years the threatening clouds of war gathered on the political horizon, the German Socialists stood with all their strength up to the last hour for the realization of peace. To the misfortune of the people, the Socialists in all countries were not yet strong enough to hold back the terrible fate which has come upon Europe. The torch of war flared up sharply and set the whole world on fire.

When the Cossacks of the Tsar passed over the frontiers of East Prussia and the German Socialists proved true to the word which their leaders had given to the German people. They put themselves at the service of their country and voted the means for its defence.

The fate of East Prussia shows what would have become of Germany if the German people had not been unanimous in holding back the Russian hordes from the achievement of peace. We have also made advances to all the endeavours of the Socialists of neutral countries in the same direction.

When the Executive Committee of the International made the suggestion that it should discuss with the Socialist parties of the belligerent countries separately the possibility of inaugurating a common peace campaign, the Executive of the German Party agreed subject to the agreement of the French Party. Though the consent of the French Party was not to hand, members of the German Executive went, on an invitation, to The Hague in March, where they learned that the British Section had agreed to the proposed discussion, but not the French. Nevertheless, they discussed with the members of the Executive Committee of the International in a friendly way, and gave expression to their readiness to meet at the first possible moment, to secure a helping of the International Bureau and to support all measures which may be taken for the achievement of peace.

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faithful to our Socialist convictions, we believe we ought to voice this longing for peace. In taking this stand we know ourselves to be in agreement with powerful sections of all the nations which are at war with us, who desire with us a peace without violation of the independence of other nations, a peace which makes possible again a lasting co-operation between civilized peoples. Therefore we protest energetically against the attempts which are being made to make peace dependent upon all kinds of conquests. From the beginning we have made it clear that we condemn every war of conquest, and we stand firmly by these statements.

These statements were strongly re-emphasized on the same occasion by Comrade Scheidemann. Our Party has also given expression to its desire for peace in the Labour Diet. The Executive of the Party published in the Christmas number of the Labour Leader, the organ of the British Independent Labor Party, the following statement:

Our warmest sympathy is extended in this fateful time to all endeavours which have as their purpose a speedy termination of this men-murdering struggle between the peoples.

On April 12 and 13 the representatives of the Executives of the Socialist parties of Germany and Austria-Hungary met in Vienna, and their discussion resulted in the publication of a manifesto which declared as follows on the subject of Peace:

The Socialist Parties, which have worked and are working for the brotherhood of the peoples, are justified in giving expression to the longing for peace. This longing is inspired by a determination to maintain national integrity and not by a feeling of weakness, and thus it follows that peace is only possible if it does not humiliate any people. Only such a peace can guarantee the lasting co-operation of all civilized peoples. The parties represented at this conference stand true to the resolutions adopted by International Socialist Congresses, particularly those adopted by the Copenhagen Congress of 1910. In conformity with these resolutions they consider that the settlement of the war should include the following securities:

The abolition of the present International Arbitration Courts into compulsory institutions for the purpose of deciding all disputes between the different States.

The subject of all treaties and agreements to the democratic control of the representative bodies of the people.

The international limitation of armaments by agreement, with a view to general disarmament.

The recognition of the inviolability of all nations.

Further, the representatives of the Socialist Parties of Germany and Austria-Hungary declare that the fact that the Socialist Parties of the belligerent countries are defending their countries and peoples should be no hindrance to the maintenance of international relations between all Socialist Parties nor to the continuance of their activities in favour of international institutions.

But the German Socialists have in no way contented themselves by giving verbal expression in such public announcements, constantly repeated, to the desire and will for peace which animates the working class of Germany. Without consideration of all difficulties in our path, the German Socialists have taken for the word which the Executive of the Party has endeavored with strong perseverance to restore the international relations which were intercepted so suddenly by the outbreak of war, and to negotiate with our sister parties of all countries in order that joint action might be taken for the achievement of peace.

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MAKE EVERY SOCIALIST VOTER AN AMERICAN SOCIALIST READER

Last Week 58,859
Off 1,866
On 51,493
This Week 58,058
Doss 801

NEWS FROM THE FRONT — THE TIDE TURNING.

Headquarters of General James Higgins. The "Off" Army commanded by General Plute and General Henrius Dubb is still pressing us severely. The enemy took several trenches. The Dubb brigade delivered a frontal attack in the hope of breaking our line. They were met, however, by a terrific fire of subs delivered by the Hustler Brigade and were compelled to retreat toward their own lines.

We are retreating steadily but with our line and spirit unbroken. As soon as re-enforcements arrive we intend to deliver a counter attack that will sweep the enemy before us. Shortage of munitions is bothering our army considerably. All lovers of liberty for whose cause we are fighting are asked to contribute munitions in the form of subs in any quantity they can spare.

PEORIA, ILL., SIGNS PLEDGE. "I believe it should be my duty to inform you that the enclosed pledge which is filled by me is to the credit of the Y. P. S. L. of Peoria because five members of the league volunteered 25 cents every five weeks and I, as Literature Agent of the League, was instructed to collect the sub from the respective member every week and send it to the National Office."

OTHERS SIGN THE 5,000 PLEDGE THIS WEEK AS FOLLOWS:
George Shaffer, Arcadia, Ind.
E. L. Cannon, Portland, Ore.
R. Schron, Detroit, Mich.
John J. Vaughn, Redlands, Colo.
Walter S. McCombs, Buffalo, N. Y.
P. E. Klein, Syracuse, N. Y.
E. F. Wickman, Pocatello, Ida.

ROLL OF HONOR

"Please find \$2 enclosed for which you may send me sub-cards. I wish all those who can afford to do so would send you a dollar now to put the paper in the shape it ought to be for the great campaign that is soon to open and that will be by all odds the greatest in opportunity in which the Socialist party has ever had a part."—**BURGESS V. DEBS.**
E. B. ARMSSTRONG, Illinois, orders 21 initiation cards for his local.
EDWARD PUGH, Missouri, marches to the front with 16 volunteers.
J. F. ROSS, Pennsylvania, finds 8 eager comrades ready to join in the attack.
"You certainly are getting out an interesting sheet and no Socialist can afford to be without it."—**W. B. COLLINS, Michigan.**
I am trying to organize a little force of volunteers for the American Socialist. I have held two meetings in our county school-house. Please send me 7 cards."—**E. J. LANDGRAF, Mich.**
"I am not in a position to get many subscribers but will send you one dollar to help the paper. We use his dollar to help any annihilation."—**FRANK BURNETT, Cal.**
J. J. PRUCHA, New York City, who has been here for the American Socialist, orders 21 initiation cards for the new members.
JACOB PEGELIOW, Wyoming, lines up cow-boys in his Western state who joyfully join the forces.
A Lucky Brigade of 13 is organized by WILLIAM WORMAL, Ohio.
Five husky Westerners from Montana join the 5,000 brigade.
"I am going to try to get the knife. I hope this will help some to keep the subscription list from falling below 50,000."—**F. G. BAUMANN, Pa.**
D. I. TODD, North Dakota, brings in a force that is well to be proud of. A brigade of 28 asks for a place on the firing line.
Hartman, Pa., purchases a supply of initiation cards for their Sunday meeting. Frederick Strickland will speak for them.
DAN O'BRIEN, Ohio, brings in a club of 4 this week.
J. FORREST POTTS, West Virginia, presents us with a list of 12. We will send him two of our attractive pennants for his good work.
A Campaign Book of 1914 goes to H. M. MEANS, West Virginia. He secured 10 subs for The American Socialist.

On the ground that the introduction of the Industrial Workers of the World's preamble, constitution and other matter at the trial, tended to prejudice the jury, Charles Cline has been given a new trial by the Texas court of appeals. The Rangel-Cline Defense Committee writes The American Socialist from San Antonio, Tex., that the comrades imprisoned wish to express their appreciation for the assistance given them and to ask for the continued support of all comrades and friends in their struggle for equity and justice.

A TASK FOR SOCIALISM.

The Farm, Stock and Home, one of the most widely read of the nation's farm publications, recently published a long editorial showing that the control of the countries of Europe, is falling into Socialist hands. It concludes by saying that: "In short, in Germany, France and Great Britain, the control of affairs appears to be passing into new hands, and out of the struggle there seems destined to arise the Socialist state—a Socialism tempered by responsibility and burdened with the great task of reshaping local government to meet the great problems of national rebuilding."

DEBS IS FOR THE JITNEYS

NOTE—Eugene V. Debs finds time to fight the plagues in his own home town. Terre Haute, Ind. Readers of The American Socialist will remember his article in the "CARRY YOUR CITY FOR SOCIALISM" issue of last March, in which he wrote about the Terre Haute vote frauds. The fight of the jitneys against the traction corporation is a nation-wide one and we know you will be glad to read what Debs has to say about the fight in Terre Haute. He says:

The war of the traction corporation on the jitney is but one of the modern phases of the age-old struggle between the strong and the weak, the cunning and simple, the rich and poor.

The traction company stands for capital and the jitney for labor in this fight. To put it in another way the former represents what we know as Wall Street and the latter as the common people.

I have just read Mr. Beasley's statement in behalf of the traction company which appeared in a recent issue of the Terre Haute Tribune. For unadulterated gall this statement by the attorney of the traction company is certainly a prize winner. Mr. Beasley does not say so but he and the exploiting eastern capitalists he represents, who have been looting this city for years, want the jitneys suppressed. That is the way they want them "regulated." They want their owners, who are not as rich as Mr. Beasley's plutocratic eastern clients, loaded down with license fees, indemnity bonds and other legal extortions sufficient to "regulate" them out of existence.

Complying With Law. When Mr. Beasley says that "the traction company has complied with all the regulations provided by the law," he insults the intelligence of every citizen of this community. Mr. Beasley is a corporation lawyer and a very shrewd one. Will he dare to defend that proposition in a public discussion before the people of Terre Haute? I will gladly offer my humble services in behalf of the jitneys and nothing would suit me better than the chance to analyze his position in behalf of the traction company before the public utilities commission and to tear to tatters his statement in support of that petition.

Oh, the poor and shamefully abused traction company! Mr. Beasley's plea in its behalf is almost as rich as Mr. Beasley's corporation of Terre Haute. As if the people of Terre Haute were all big, big-minded and insensitive to the great benefactions Mr. Beasley's corporation clients have been bestowing upon us so freely and unselfishly all these years.

City by the Throat. For fifteen years the traction company, with Mr. Beasley as one of its chief attorneys, and with the red light as its political ally, had this city by the throat and controlled it as criminally and corruptly as any city has ever been controlled by the brigands who looted it in all the history of the United States.

During all these years this franchise-grabbing, street-stealing, tax-dodging, unprincipled eastern corporation debauched the politics of the city, prostituted its courts, defied its laws and turned its private gunmen loose to rob and kill those who interfered with its criminal operations. Not a policeman could be appointed without its sanction and when it does a city street it simply had its puppeteer's public office make the transfer and issue the title.

The franchise record of the traction company is one of shameless fraud and downright robbery. That this fraud and robbery have had the sanction of the courts, simply shows to what extent the politics of the city, prostituted its courts, defied its laws and turned its private gunmen loose to rob and kill those who interfered with its criminal operations. Not a policeman could be appointed without its sanction and when it does a city street it simply had its puppeteer's public office make the transfer and issue the title.

When Mr. Beasley objects to the jitney driver on the ground that he is not necessarily required to be a citizen one wonders at the low estimate he places on the intelligence

"Come On, Boys, Another Job"

By ROBERT MINOR



The Gunmen That Shot Up the Strikers at Roosevelt Are at Bayonne for John D. Today. (From The New York Call.)

of his fellow-townsmen. Why does he not protest against his own clients for the same reason? Is it perchance because he shares liberally in the proceeds of the sale of his neighbors and townsmen to the rich men of the east?

John R. Lawson, the brave and incorruptible leader of the miners in Colorado, was sent to the penitentiary for life by a Rockefeller Judge in a Rockefeller court upon the theory that as leader of the strike he was responsible for the murders and other crimes perpetrated during his leadership. If this same theory of law were applied to Mr. Beasley's traction clients every one of them would serve a life sentence in the state prison.

Plea to Organize. Mr. Beasley speaks with great confidence of the public utilities commission. I have no such confidence. Most commissions of that character are controlled by the corporations they are supposed to control.

The jitney drivers and their friends the common people, would better prepare to rely upon themselves in this fight. They have no reason to trust commissions or courts when an issue arises between themselves and powerful corporations. First of all let the jitney drivers organize and stand together. The organized workers and the common people will back them. They know the traction company and they understand why this underhanded attempt is being made to strike down the jitneys and give Mr. Beasley's corporation clients the absolute monopoly to pluck the people of Terre Haute. I am for the jitneys.

AMONG BOOKS

"MUNICIPAL FREEDOM." Oswald Ryan. Published by Doubleday, Page & Co. 1915. 233 pp. Price, 60 cents net.

Another of the numerous books on the commission form of government. It contains a strong plea for municipal self government. On this the author says:

"There appears to be no reason for excepting cities from the operation of the principle of self-government that does not apply with equal force against the principle of democracy itself."

"Ours are the only English-speaking cities in the world that are denied the right of self government. English cities since 1832 have been among the best governed in the world, and American cities have been among the worst governed. And one reason for this is that English cities are self-governed and American cities are state-governed. It has been well said that the citizens of Birmingham govern Birmingham, but that the legislature of Indiana governs Indianapolis."

The author urges commission form of government as the means of establishing both an efficient and a democratic municipal government.

Science has demonstrated that it would be possible for every person living to have abundance of everything desired, working but six hours a day. The fact that this condition does not prevail proves maladjustment of things.

JOHN D.'S ARMY MARCHING ON.

(From The New York Call.)

John D.'s army goes a-marching on, from strike to strike, always on hand where there is shooting of workmen to be done.

But a short time ago John D.'s army was at Roosevelt, N. J. Now it is at Bayonne.

Little things like State laws don't bother this army any.

State laws were made by those who stand by the kind of thing that John D. stands by. State laws were made to protect the system that gives John D. control of the lives of millions.

So, if John D. wants to take an army of the system's broken and twisted derelicts out of New York over to New Jersey, it is not to be expected that a mere trifle of capitalist law is going to stop him.

So the gunmen are at Bayonne, to "protect" John D.'s profits.

John D. threw a mantle of criminal law over Colorado. He is doing it for New Jersey as rapidly as he can.

John D.'s army goes a-marching on — and everywhere it marches workmen go to their graves. This is inevitable under capitalism. It will be impossible under Socialism.

HOW THE BATTLE FOR BREAD IS RAGING IN EASTERN STATES. BAYONNE, N. J. — Situation in the strike at Standard Oil Plant still tense; sheriff has 300 special deputies about the plant in final effort to avoid calling for troops and strikers have obtained many rifles. Rockefeller secures more gunmen. Half a dozen strikers have already been murdered by the Rockefeller guards, while scores have been wounded.

NEW YORK. — Union decides not to call out 3,000 employees of independent clothing makers. Practically all workers in other concerns back at work, their terms agreed to by manufacturers.

BRIDGEPORT, Conn. — Strike practically ended on concession of longshoremen; Union officials say strikes will follow in Springfield, Providence, Hyde Park, Boston and other cities where munitions are being made.

PALMER, Mass. — The Wright Wire company's plant closed, following strike of employees demanding eight-hour day. Union officials say strikes will follow in Springfield, Providence, Hyde Park, Boston and other cities where munitions are being made.

BROOKLYN, N. Y. — Concession of eight-hour day without reduction of wages ends threat of strike at E. W. Bliss company torpedo plant.

NEW YORK. — Two thousand longshoremen out, say strikers at piers of Mallory and Clyde steamship companies; 1,200 out, say employers, and 700 strike breakers at work.

The New Era, the Socialist weekly, printed in Pittsburgh, is the latest paper to give up the ghost, the old stereotyped reason given being that of financial embarrassment. The New Era was one of the best Socialist papers issued in this country, and much of the work done on it was contributed ungrudgingly. There is a possibility that the N. E. may resume publication when business has improved, and here's hoping that the expectations of its promoters may be realized.

THE WORLD OF LABOR

By MAX S. HAYES

This from the British Board of Trade's latest report regarding labor conditions is very instructive: A scarcity of male labor is reported by nearly all trades. The shortage is now extending to female and boy labor in many occupations.

The coal mining industry was well employed, but was working under great difficulties owing to the large number of enlistments. The shipbuilding trades continued to work at high pressure, with night shifts, Sunday work and much overtime. Men in the building trades have enlisted in large numbers, with the result that, although building operations have been much restricted, there was very little unemployment among those remaining in those trades.

The fishing industry continued to be seriously affected owing to the war. In agriculture there was a general scarcity of labor, but the good weather during the month put the work forward, and the shortage was not so acutely felt as might have been anticipated. Employment with dock laborers continues good. The increase in wages gained in May amounted to \$84,000 a week, 970,000 working people being affected. There were 63 strikes and 52,000 workers involved.

The internationality of labor will receive another practical demonstration at the meeting of the A. F. of L. San Francisco, next November, when Bunji Suzuki and Yoshe Matsuo, of Tokio, Japan, will be received as fraternal delegates from the workmen of Japan to the workmen of America. The event will make the second Monday in November a red-letter day in the history of the American labor movement.

It will signify that American workmen are actively promoting cordial relations between America and Japan, and may mark a long step in advance to adjust the Asiatic labor problem that is so keenly felt on the Pacific coast.

In the face of the severe suffering to which they are naturally subjected on account of the war, the miners in a dozen different districts in Belgium went on strike for higher wages and the regulation of other working conditions. The living conditions reached the point where the men simply would not work, preferring to starve rather than wear themselves out for next to nothing.

Latest accounts have it that the mine owners are making satisfactory settlements.

The Co-operative Commonwealth is the name of a small, neatly printed, monthly magazine put out by the comrades of South Dakota. It contains all official state reports, party news and propaganda suited to the northern farmer. The state office handles all business matters. Subscription price, 50 cents. Send ads and subs to The Socialist Party, Sisseton, S. D.

Science has demonstrated that the reason why the worker is poor is because he is "laid off" on everything he produces and everything he consumes.

If an organization fails to meet present requirements all it has done of good in the past will not make it worth preserving.

The New York Volkszeitung remarks that at the outbreak of the European war the little army of Denmark was mobilized along with the rest, although numbering less than 10,000 men. The 15th Infantry Battalion was stationed at Lyngby, a rural town. Now 143 young women in that district have appealed to the government to help support the "war babies" they are bringing into the world. So that Denmark is having "war babies" without any war. But the accursed uniform will continue to be worshipped just the same by hypocritical knaves and fool women.

Young People's Dept.

Organization—Education—Solidarity.

WM. F. KRUSE, Director

To reach the nation's youth with the message of Socialism and to bring them into the organized Socialist movement through Young People's Socialist Leagues.

Address all communications to: Socialist Party Young People's Dept., 803 W. Madison St., Chicago.

SHOP TALK FOR YIPSELS.

I am not personally acquainted with all you Comrade Yipseles, I wish I were. You do not all know me very well. — I wish, again, that you did.

In view of this condition of affairs, not at all to our liking, we will have to do the best we can to understand each other.

I want you all to realize, in the first place, that this Young People's Socialist's movement, it belongs to them; it's not mine, and it's not the other fellow's, — it's OUR movement. And since it's ours, we are the ones responsible for its success or failure. Get that straight, too.

All of you have the interest of the Y. P. S. L. at heart. I know that. Now let us make sure that we will all work in harmony, each in his or her own particular place, for the good of our organization.

I want you to watch this little space, — since I cannot talk to you all personally, I shall have to do so through this medium. It is important, too, for a good many things will be said here, that every Y. P. S. L. member ought to know. There is a letter on my desk now asking for certain information that was printed in The American Socialist two months ago. It's ancient history to most leagues by this time, that is, to those who read The American Socialist. The others are two months behind the times. This should be a lesson to them, no organization in the socialist movement can keep abreast of the times unless they regularly subscribe to and read our National organ.

In this little space I expect to speak to you from week to week. — Just to let you know how things are getting on, and, if necessary, to give you a quiet tip in regard to improvements or threatening storms. That's all for this week. I hope you will watch this space in the weeks to come and that you will do all you can to boost The American Socialist among the members of the Y. P. S. L.—WM. F. KRUSE, National Secretary.

From Detroit, Mich., comes a suggestion that, in coming with many other good things, has a great deal to be said both in its favor, and against it. The suggestion is that we get out a special button to be presented by the Leagues to anyone bringing in five new members. Same to be sold by the National Office at about 25c each and to have such an inscription as "Reward of Merit."

Now in its favor we can say that it will probably bring in a good many members that we might not otherwise get, and that, at a very reasonable cost. It would stimulate interest in the organization, and give our members something to work for.

Against its use we may say that our worth-while members are even now doing all they can, but they are doing it for the good of the organization and not in the hope of a bit of tinSEL for their lapels. Then there is always a grave danger attached to any membership campaign, it engenders rivalry, and often draws a very undesirable sort of people in to the organization, for in times of contest we do not watch the membership very closely.

What do you think about this comrades, — if you decide favorably I will get out a button somewhat similar to that which received the second highest number of votes in the referendum to adopt an emblem, adding only the word "Hustler" underneath the "Y. P. S. L." Send in your opinions as soon as possible, if it's a good idea, we want to put it into operation just as soon as possible, if not let's have it over with.

No, comrades, it is actually true. And if you want these two brilliant speakers and organizers in your town you had better hurry along your applications for indications are that there will be a good many more applications than Comrades Germer

GERMER-GOEBEL LECTURES. Several locals have written us asking whether it is actually true that they can obtain Comrades Germer and Goebel for one lecture each for the sale of \$200 worth of sub-cards or for the flat rate of \$25. The price asked for the lectures — considering their quality is such that many locals think we must have made a mistake.

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RYAN WALKER, Creator of Heavy Dubb.

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DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA—Washington.
GEORGIA—Waycross.
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SOUTH DAKOTA—Hot Springs, Frederick, Tennessee—Memphis.
UTAH—Salt Lake City, Ogden.
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